

Message Text

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72

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 H-03 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00

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R 011617Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7455

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 4730

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJ: ACCESS TO EMBASSY

REF: MOSCOW 4628 AND 3539

1. DURING MY CALL ON KORNIYENKO APRIL 1, I BROUGHT UP THE DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED BY SOME SOVIET CITIZENS SEEKING TO ENTER THE EMBASSY TO DISCUSS TRAVEL AND EMIGRATION TO THE U.S. I NOTED THAT FREQUENTLY THE SOVIET MILITIAMEN POSTED OUTSIDE DO NOT PERMIT SUCH PERSONS TO ENTER EVEN WHEN THEY CARRY A LETTER FROM A CONSULAR OFFICER INVITING THEM TO THE EMBASSY TO DISCUSS THEIR CASES. THE MILITIA HAVE ON OCCASIONS EXPLAINED THEIR ACTIONS BY STATING THAT A SOVIET CITIZEN MUST HAVE AN EXIT VISA BEFORE HE WILL BE ALLOWED TO VISIT THE EMBASSY. I SAID THAT IN OUR OPINION THIS IS NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSULAR CONVENTION AND WE THINK THAT WHEN A SOVIET CITIZEN HAS LEGITIMATE BUSINESS WITH THE EMBASSY HE SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO ENTER. I NOTED THAT WE HAVE HAD SEVERAL SUCH CASES DURING THE PAST WEEK (REFTELS) AND I PRESENTED AN AIDE MEMOIRE ON THE SUBJECT.

2. KORNIYENKO RESPONDED MILDLY, STATING THAT HE WOULD DRAW THE ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS TO THIS PROBLEM. HE SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE THERE WERE INSTRUCTIONS TO KEEP PEOPLE OUT SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY DID
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NOT HAVE AN EXIT VISA. HE ADDED THAT IN THE PAST THER

HAVE BEEN CASES WHEN THE MILITIA HAD PREVENTED ENTRY TO
THE EMBASSY BY PERSONS WHO HAD "CERTAIN INTENTIONS."
IN SUCH CASES THE OBJECTIVE WAS MERELY TO PROTECT THE
EMBASSY FROM "UNPLEASANTNESS."
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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